

# GEP-HI workshop: Good Evaluation Practice guidelines for planning and executing an evaluation study in Health Informatics

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IMIA WG Technology Assessment and Quality  
Development in Health Informatics



EFMI WG Assessment of Health Information Systems

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Institute for Health Information Systems  
University for Health Sciences, Medical Informatics and Technology

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## IT in health care

- Health care depends on information technology (health IT)
- Health IT can **improve efficiency, quality and safety** of health care
- But: Insufficiently designed health IT can also **hinder processes and harm patients**  
(see examples at: <http://iig.umat.at/efmi>)



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## Need for evaluation



Overhage, 2001

- **Ethical obligation** to ensure that health IT generates benefits and does not harm patients.
- Evaluation helps to design **better IT systems**.
- Evaluation generates evidence needed for health informatics as professional science („**Evidence-based health informatics**“).

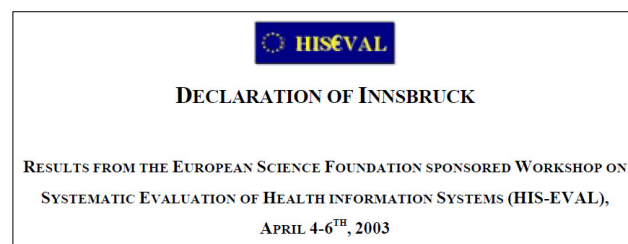


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## Definition of evaluation

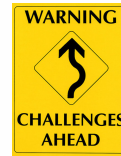
- „Act of measuring or exploring properties of a health information systems, the result of which informs a decision to be made concerning that system.“ (Declaration of Innsbruck, 2003)



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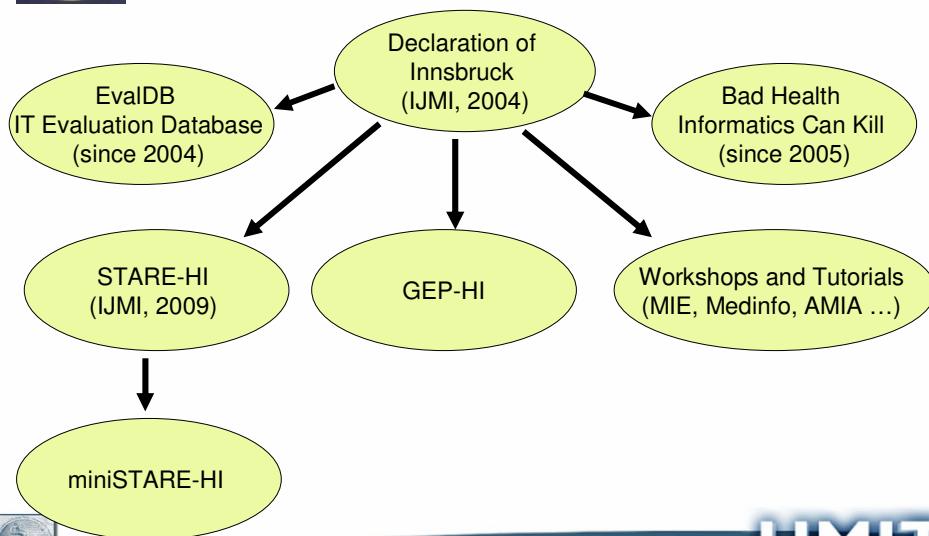
# Challenges in evaluation



- Who will pay for an evaluation study?
- Who has the expertise to perform evaluations?
- How to design a „good“ evaluation study?
- How to design „good“ evaluation reports?
- How to find evaluation studies?
- ....



## EFMI/IMIA Working Groups on Evaluation: Activities



## GEP-HI: Good Evaluation Practice Guidelines in Health Informatics

- Many evaluation studies are of low quality
- Guidelines should support evaluators in planning and executing a study
- Guidelines should help to increase quality of health IT evaluation studies
- Guidelines can be used for training



## GEP-HI: Workshop



- Overview on GEP-HI (Pirkko Nykänen)
- Contents of GEP-HI (Jytte Brender)
- Case study (Lyn Hanmer)
- Summary and discussion (Michael Rigby)



## Interested?

- All activities and slides available at <http://iig.uit.at/efmi/>
- EvalDB Evaluation Database available at <http://evaldb.uit.at>
- Contact: [elske.ammenwerth@uit.at](mailto:elske.ammenwerth@uit.at)

